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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/647,447	08/26/2003	Akihiro Hashimoto	Q77147	1646

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WASHINGTON, DC 20037

EXAMINER

NEGRON, DANIEL L

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2627

DATE MAILED: 04/05/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

10/647,447

Applicant(s)

HASHIMOTO, AKIHIRO

Examiner

Daniell L. Negrón

Art Unit

2627

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 13 March 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 2,3,5,6,8,9,11,12,14,15,17,18 and 20 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 4 and 7 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,10,13,16 and 19 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Request for Continued Examination***

1. Examiner acknowledges the request for continued examination (RCE) filed on March 13, 2006.

### ***Information Disclosure Statement***

2. The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on March 13, 2006 is in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97. Accordingly, the information disclosure statement has been considered by the examiner.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 1, 10, and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Riches et al U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0035695.

Regarding claims 1 and 13, Riches et al disclose a recording medium cartridge (4) comprising a recording medium (4a) and a cartridge memory (3), wherein a first cyclic redundancy checking (CRC) code produced from data recorded in the recording medium (page 1, paragraphs 6 and 23) is recorded in the cartridge memory and then secured an un-rewritable state (see page 1, paragraph 26, page 3, paragraphs 65 and 86, page 4, paragraph 92, and Response to Arguments) and wherein a flag for write protection is generated after completion of the data

in the recording medium and the cartridge memory is not rewritable (see page 2, paragraph 32 and page 4, paragraphs 98 and 109).

Regarding claim 10, the rejections applied to claims 10 and 13 in the Office action mailed June 29, 2005 are herein repeated for the same reasons (see Response to Arguments).

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 16 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Riches et al U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0035695 in view of Malakapalli et al U.S. Patent No. 6,467,060.

Regarding claims 16 and 19, the rejections applied to claims 16 and 19 in the previous Office action mailed June 29, 2005 are herein repeated for the same reasons (see Response to Arguments).

***Allowable Subject Matter***

7. Claims 4 and 7 are allowed.

8. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Regarding claims 4 and 7, claim 4 discloses an apparatus for recording on/reproducing from a recording medium cartridge, comprising a CRC code comparing means which compares a second CRC code produced from data recorded in the recording medium with a first CRC code corresponding to the data recorded in the cartridge memory, the second CRC code being

corresponding to the data recorded in the cartridge memory, the second CRC code being produced when the data is recorded in the recording medium, which is neither taught or an obvious variation of the prior art.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

### ***Response to Arguments***

9. Applicant's arguments filed March 13, 2005 regarding claims 1, 10, 13, 16, and 19 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. In response to the previous Office action mailed December 13, 2005 Applicant argues that Riches et al fail to show recording a CRC code in a cartridge memory and the securing is in an unrewritable state. The Examiner however respectfully disagrees. Riches et al discloses recording codes in a "signature area" within a memory comprising a plurality of blocks (for example, see Figs. 2-4) where each code is stored. Each code stored in the memory is written to a different memory block. It is considered that the codes are secured in an unrewritable state since once a code is stored in a block, a next code is written to a subsequent block, thus the code stored in the previous block cannot be rewritten (page 4, paragraph 92).

### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Daniell L. Negrón whose telephone number is 571-272-7559. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday (8:30am-5:00pm).

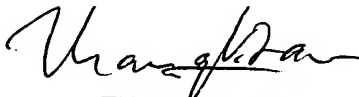
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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wayne R. Young can be reached on 571-272-7582. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

DLN 

March 27, 2006

  
THANG V. TRAN  
PRIMARY EXAMINER